RESOLUTION ON THE REFUGEES SITUATION

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Fifty-first Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 19 to 24 February 1990,

Having considered the introductory report of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity on the activities of the Organization of African Unity General Secretariat in relation to the refugee situation in Africa,

Recalling the fact that refugee influxes have continued to occur in various parts of the continent,

Noting with deep gratitude the efforts of the UNHCR in repatriating close to 42 000 Namibians, during the second half of 1989,

Considering the serious nature of the refugee phenomenon in Africa which is being further aggravated by the deplorable state of global economy,

Noting with concern the regularly decreasing volume of assistance made available to the African refugees’ programs by the UNHCR,

Noting with satisfaction the necessary measures taken by both the General Secretariat and the OAU Commission of 15 on Refugees, especially the various briefings given to the African Groups at the United Nations Offices in New York and Geneva on the plight of African refugees,

Noting with appreciation the humanitarian assistance extended to countries of asylum by the international community,

Recalling Resolution CM/Res.1241 (L) on the refugee situation in Africa, adopted by the Fiftieth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers in July 1989 which requested the Secretary-General of the OAU in collaboration with the UN Secretary-General as well as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to prepare a well documented study on the root-causes of refugees in Africa for submission to the Fifty-second Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers:

1. TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION the useful introductory report of the Secretary-General on the situation of refugees in Africa, and COMMENDS both the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the OAU Commission of 15 on Refugees for the report;

2. REAFFIRMS all its previous resolutions on the situation of refugees in Africa;
3. COMMENDS the Office of the UNHCR for the efforts made in favor of the repatriation of more than 42,000 Namibians last year;

4. CALLS UPON the Secretary-General of the OAU to contact the United Nations Secretary-General as soon as possible in the pursuit of his efforts to sensitise the international community on the situation of refugees in Africa, and to mobilise international assistance for these refugees;

5. EXPRESSES THANKS AND APPRECIATION to the International Community and the UNHCR for the assistance given to African refugees and URGES UNHCR to increase its efforts for the attainment of durable solution to this grave problem by mobilising the necessary resources.